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PROGRAM ABC World News Tonight

STATION WJLA-TV  
ABC Network

DATE June 29, 1982 7:00 P.M. CITY Washington D.C.

SUBJECT Intelligence in the Middle East

FRANK REYNOLDS: Relations between the United States and Israel are at the moment somewhat delicate, and they have not been helped by a feeling at the Pentagon that the Israeli military is not being completely candid with the Americans about certain military matters.

JOHN MCWHETHY: After Israel invaded Southern Lebanon, high ranking Israeli officials boasted that all of the captured Soviet made weapons and defeated Russian systems would prove to be an intelligence bonanza for the United States. American Intelligence sources now say that as yet Israel has turned over almost nothing to the US. Sources say Israel appears to be using intelligence gained from fighting the Soviet equipped Syrian Army as a bargaining chip to gain political leverage in dealing with the US.

An Israeli spokesman said, the US hasn't yet asked us for anything. Among the things the US Intelligence community is looking for is captured T-72 tanks, the top of the line Soviet export to Syria. There is also interest in knowing exactly how the Israelis overwhelmed Soviet made surface-to-air missiles, without losing what Israel claims is a single plane.

While the flow of Intelligence is reportedly limited, the flood of propaganda by all sides involved in the fighting is not. This is a compendium of documents the Israelis reportedly captured from PLO camps during the invasion. It was handed out in both New York and Washington today. It shows detailed lists of PLO operatives who allegedly were trained in the Soviet Union or Warsaw pact countries. There was even one graduation certificate issued by the Soviet Ministry of Defense for a PLO

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officer studying reconnaissance techniques.

On the most controversial issue, civilian casualties. The PLO claims 10,000 civilians have been killed or wounded in the fighting. An Israeli official in Washington today said that he estimates that no more than 500 civilians have been killed. He excluded from his count casualties from West Beirut, saying as yet, no one can even guess.